



# LEEC

LOUISIANA ENVIRONMENTAL  
EDUCATION COMMISSION

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## *Special eNews Bulletin*

### LEEC NEWS

#### **SUMMER BIODIVERSITY WORKSHOP SCHEDULED**

The Louisiana Environmental Education Commission has scheduled its first Discovering Biodiversity Workshop from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., June 25, 2015 at Prien Lake Elementary in Lake Charles. Sponsored by the Alcoa Foundation, the educator workshop will feature activities and lessons highlighting our state's diverse flora, fauna and habitats — with special attention focused on our threatened and endangered species.

If you are interested in attending this workshop, please contact Venise Ortego at [vortego@wlf.la.gov](mailto:vortego@wlf.la.gov).

#### **MAY COMMISSION MEETING SET**

The Louisiana Environmental Education Commission will meet at 1 p.m., May 15, 2015 at the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Headquarters Building, 2000 Quail Drive, Baton Rouge.

### CONTINUING EDUCATION

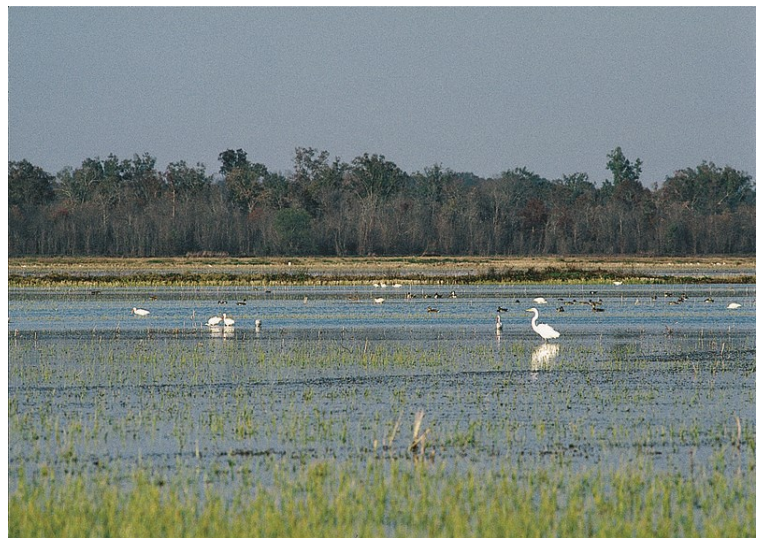
#### **WETLAND CURRICULUM WORKSHOP**

The 4-H Youth Wetlands Program is hosting a wetland curriculum workshop specifically geared towards informal educators. Attendees will explore hands-on, place-based activities from the 4-H Youth Wetlands Program 2014-2015 curriculum binder about real world issues surrounding wetlands and their animal inhabitants that can be used in the classroom, for community outreach, on-site programming, and summer camps.

The workshop is scheduled for Friday, May 22nd, 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. and will be held at BREC's Bluebonnet Swamp Education Building in Baton Rouge (a new facility located on property adjacent to the nature center). Educators will receive lunch, a certificate of attendance, and a copy of the 2014 curriculum. Registration is on a first-come, first-served basis, so be sure to register early.

Register online at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/wetland-curriculum-workshop-informal-educators-tickets-16488198646>.

Additional Resource: Find the updated 4-H Youth Wetland Program Curriculum at [http://www.lsuagcenter.com/en/4H/about\\_4H/programs/science\\_engineering\\_technology/Youth+Wetlands...](http://www.lsuagcenter.com/en/4H/about_4H/programs/science_engineering_technology/Youth+Wetlands...)



Louisiana Wetland photo courtesy Wikimedia Commons.

## RESOURCES

### **ENVIRONMENTAL WEBINAR SERIES STARTS APRIL 30**

GEOTRACES (<http://www.geotraces.org/>) is introducing a free four-part webinar series focusing on trace elements and what they can tell us about biogeochemical processes, the carbon cycle, and climate. Nine scientists, each studying a unique facet of ocean chemistry, will share their work and the importance of researching these rare and vital “clues” from the ocean.

Attendees must register at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/geotraces>.

### **EPA STUDENT CURRICULUM: RECIPES FOR HEALTHY KIDS AND A HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT**

The Environmental Protection Agency provides a nine-lesson program designed to excite kids about environmental health and empower them to take steps in their everyday lives to improve the environment for their community and reduce their environmental risk.

Geared toward children ages 9 - 13, the program can be used inside or outside the classroom. The program encourages kids to actively explore the environments in which they live and play. Lessons include easy-to-use lesson plan cards organized around key actions for teaching (ASK, DO, and EXPLAIN), one or more hands-on activities in each 45- minute lesson, materials for kids to take home to share with their families, and posters and visual cards.

Download the lesson plans at <http://www2.epa.gov/children/student-curriculum-recipes-healthy-kids-and-healthy-environment>.

### **E-SMARTKIDS INTERACTIVE RESOURCE**

Cleco offers a free web resource for students, teachers and parents. E-SMARTkids is an interactive site with games and teaching tools focused on the electricity, electrical safety and energy conservation. Teachers can access tips, worksheets and answer keys, and activities and experiments on the site. Also included are video resources suitable for students in grades three through seven.

Visit <http://cleco.e-smartonline.net/>.

### **CELEBRATE AND SUPPORT OUR NATIONAL PARKS DURING NATIONAL PARK WEEK, APRIL 18–26.**

Talk to your class about the history and breadth of our national parks and the diversity found within them using [scien-cenetlink.com](http://scien-cenetlink.com)'s collection of resources. Students can read about the giant redwoods of California, explore the archaeology of the Southwest desert, and listen to what pythons in the Everglades have been eating.

Find the resources at <http://sciencenetlinks.com/collections/celebrating-our-national-parks/>.



Yosemite National Park photo courtesy Wikimedia Commons.

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